

## The Essential Conditions

**Al-Ilm (Knowledge)** Allah says: “So know that La ilaha ill-Allah...” [47:19]. This means a person must understand that the declaration affirms Allah’s exclusive right to be worshipped and reject all false gods. Without this knowledge, simply saying the words does not complete true faith. Knowledge of what you say is essential; ignorance invalidates sincere belief.

**Al-Yaqeen (Certainty)** “Only those are the believers... and afterward doubt not...” [49:15]. Faith requires certainty, free from doubt. Certainty in the meaning and reality of the Shahādah is mandatory. Doubt or suspicion invalidates true belief.

**Al-Ikhlās (Sincerity)** “Surely, the religion is for Allah Alone only.” [39:3]. Worship must be pure, free from shirk (major/minor) or seeking worldly gain. No act of worship or declaration is accepted except with complete sincerity for Allah Alone.

**As-Sidq (Truthfulness)** “Do people think they will be left alone because they say: ‘We believe?’” [29:2-3]. Truthfulness means affirming faith sincerely, avoiding hypocrisy. True belief must be honestly reflected in the heart, actions and speech.

**Al-Mahabbah (Love)** “Those who believe love Allah more.” [2:165]. Loving Allah and the faith and those who act upon it is a sign of true belief. Love for the Shahādah and its followers is essential.

**Al-Inqiyaad (Submission)** “Turn in repentance and obedience to your Lord...” [39:54-55]. Obedience to Allah’s commands is obligatory. Full submission to all that the Shahādah entails is required.

**Al-Qabool (Acceptance)** “They shall not believe until they refer to you for judgment...and submit fully.” [Nisa 4:65]. Complete acceptance without hesitation is necessary. True faith demands peace and contentment with Allah’s verdicts.

# THE CONDITIONS OF LA ILAHA ILL-ALLAH



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## The Foundations of Tawhid

The Testimony of Faith (Shahadah) is the key to Paradise, but like any key, it requires fulfilling specific conditions to open the door. The declaration “La ilaha illa-Allah” means “There is no true god worthy of worship in truth except Allah Alone,” affirming His exclusive right to be sincerely worshipped.

Tawheedur Rububiyyah involves recognizing and affirming that Allah alone is the Creator, Owner, and Controller of all affairs. His flawless and perfect Names and Attributes are described through Al Asma wa Siffat and Tawheedul Uluhiyyah centers on directing all acts of worship and devotion exclusively to Allah alone.

Allah created mankind and jinn to worship Him alone [51:56]. The Shahadah is a divine right upon His servants and forms the essential foundation upon which the acceptance of prayer, fasting, Hajj, and all other acts of worship utterly depend, rely and rest upon

## The Foundation of Faith: Understanding the Shahadah

The Shahadah is the first and greatest pillar of Islam. Every other pillar, article of faith, and accepted action is built upon it. Mere utterance without true understanding and belief in the heart is insufficient—such acts may stem from ignorance or hypocrisy. All the Prophets ﷺ were sent with this command: “And We sent not before you any Messenger except We revealed to him that there is no deity except Me, so worship Me Alone.” [21:25]

Even the pagan Arabs recognized Allah as The Creator, yet they deviated by not worshipping Him alone in truth: “And if you ask them who created them, they will surely say: ‘Allah.’ How then are they turned away (from worship)?” [43:87]

This sincere comprehension and devotion form the very foundation of true Islam, and without it, faith cannot be sound nor deeds accepted.

## Negation & Affirmation in Tawhid

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih al-Uthaymeen رحمه الله explained that Tawheed means making something one through both negation and affirmation. This means negating the right of worship from anyone or anything besides Allah and affirming it solely for Him. Negation alone is incomplete, and affirmation alone does not exclude others. True Tawheed combines both: denying all partners in worship and confirming Allah’s exclusive right to it.

Abdullah ibn Muhammad ibn Abdul Wahhab رحمه الله further clarified that La ilaha ill-Allah involves negating false gods, idols, rivals, and lords, while affirming four key aspects for Allah Alone: sincere intent, love and devotion, hope, and fear. These affirmations are grounded in the Quran, emphasizing complete submission and reliance on Allah Alone. This understanding is vital to fulfilling true Tawheed and sincere worship.